

SPION KOP A TRAP

The British Driven From the Position With Heavy Loss.

A FORCED NIGHT RETREAT

Warren's Troops Raked for Hours by Shot and Shell.

THE NEWS ASTOUNDS LONDON

Boer Artillery From Commanding Ridges Keeps Up an Incessant Fire on the Practically Helpless English-Highland Brigade and Gatacre's Men Fall Back—Thousands of Dead and Wounded on Both Sides—The Present Attempt to Retain the Position May Be Completely Checked—The Effect of General Buller's Disheartening Despatch.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—General Buller's "ed the War Office this morning that General Warren had abandoned Spion Kop during the night. The slaughter of the British in capturing the position was terrific and the casualties continued during the time it was held, the Boers guns being in a position to sweep the ground occupied by Warren. London is astounded today at this and perhaps greatest disaster.

General Buller's despatch, or that part of it which the War Office makes public, explaining the British reverse, reads: "SPEARMAN'S CAMP, Jan. 25—12:05 p. m.—General Warren's garrison, I am sorry to say, I find this morning had in the night abandoned Spion Kop."

The Boers' Fierce Attack.

Instead of making the position of the Boers untenable, as Buller cabled that Warren thought he had done, the Boers attacked Warren so fiercely with artillery and rifle fire that he was compelled to withdraw to the position he held before the night attack. The fact is that the Boers purposely allowed the British to take a position on Spion Kop, which the burghers had already put under command of their best artillery, and when Warren rushed into the trap and the "small garrison" fled, he found he had walked into a hornet's nest.

The Boers all day Wednesday poured in a murderous fire on the infantry and cavalry that had taken the lower exposed portion of the Kop and prevented the English from bringing any of their big guns into such a position that they could be used effectively. The casualties among the British were frightful. It is believed that the killed and wounded will run into the thousands.

Explanation of the Error.

Another explanation of the British disaster reads: "Warren's abandonment of Spion Kop means that he found the position untenable. He was probably driven off by the shell fire of the Boers to which Buller in his previous despatches had referred as 'very annoying.'"

"The Kop was commanded by the Boer guns planted on ridges to the northwest. The British expected that with possession of the Kop they could command the Boer positions and make them untenable. "They were evidently mistaken and found that they had secured a position that they could not hold. It is suggested that the Boers allowed the British to take the hill, knowing that it was untenable, and that they had their guns planted and the ranges marked off so as to pour in a destructive fire as soon as Warren got possession."

"It is believed that the loss to the British is very heavy. They had no guns on the hill to reply to the Boer shell fire, and had to lie under the best cover they could find, while the shells rained all around."

"The abandonment of the position is a bad setback for Buller. It may completely check the present attempt to relieve Ladysmith."

No Concealment of the Disaster.

The War Office has not made public all the messages received from Buller, but some of the newspaper men have been permitted to learn the contents of the despatches. The newspapers make no attempt to conceal the disaster, the following account being published in the evening papers:

"Harassed for hours by a heavy fire from the Boer guns, General Warren was forced to evacuate Spion Kop Wednesday night, after holding it for a day under a shell fire so incessant and so accurate that the British troops were moved down by hundreds."

"Warren's fight cost thousands in dead and wounded on both sides, the greater loss being to the British, and no attempt has been made as yet by General Buller to send a list of Warren's casualties."

"The kopie carried by Warren in his night attack proved to be only a small part of the Boer defence, and the half-hearted fight put up by Boers to hold it indicates a wily plot to lure Warren into a trap where his troops could be cut to pieces without any risk to the Boers."

"No sooner had Warren settled down in the captured trenches than the Boers unmasked their guns they had so secluded through all the five days of fierce preliminary fighting. From a high plateau dominating the captured trench a tornado of shell and shrapnel broke loose. The Boer

gunners had the range to an inch. All the time their guns had been silent the range-finders had been perfecting their work, and when the moment came to tear off the mask the effect of that heavy fire was overwhelming. And Warren was absolutely helpless in the trap. No guns had been or could be dragged up the steep hill that led to the trenches."

The British Merely Targets.

"Retreat was out of the question while that hail of steel swept across the hilltop. The hillside would have run red with blood had Warren attempted to withdraw in daylight."

"Hour after hour the men lay in their trenches hugging close to every bit of cover available. Bursting shells swelled the number of dead and wounded every hour, but all through that long and trying ordeal the men were forced to lie there, the target of foemen who shot fast and well."

Yesterday's Joy Turned to Gloom.

"Warren learned, when too late, that the position he had reported to Buller as making the enemy's position untenable was so completely dominated by the Boer artillery that its capture was only one of the costly blunders that have marked every step of the British campaign thus far."

It was Magerfontein, Tugela, and Stormberg and Colenso repeated—only worse. The Highland Brigade and Gatacre's men retreated when the fire got too hot for them. Warren was forced to stand at the rack all day long."

The gloom that pervades London is tenfold greater than that caused by any other shock of the war. High hopes had been raised by Buller's first report, though sober second thought showed that there was still grave cause for apprehension."

The "small garrison who fled" and "I fear our casualties are considerable" had to some extent prepared the public for a list of casualties that would sadden hundreds of homes, but no one had anticipated that Warren would not hold the position he had gained, even if he could not push forward."

Great crowds swarm the streets. Traffic about the War Office and wherever bulletins are displayed is wholly blocked. Business is at a standstill. Hundreds of women with tears streaming from their eyes are in vast throngs. Many a man, too, is in tears."

Telegraphed to the Queen.

Buller's disheartening message was promptly telegraphed to the Queen."

The position of Ladysmith is considered hopeless. Practically all of Buller's army was engaged in the attempt to turn the Boer flank. The troops have been fighting without intermission since Friday morning. The losses have been overwhelming. Six hundred were wounded in the first two days. No report of the killed has been sent and no estimate of the wounded has been given since Saturday night, but the fighting Tuesday and Wednesday has been harder than at any previous time and the casualty list will undoubtedly run up into the thousands."

Estimated British Losses.

From late despatches received from the front it is believed that General Buller's losses since January 20, will reach 2,900. Among the officers killed are Lieutenant Colonel Buchanan, of the Riddell Rifles, and three majors."

The report that General Woodgate has died of his wounds is not officially confirmed."

OVERCOME BY THE HEAT.

The Temperature Prostrates the English at Spion Kop.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—A despatch from Pretoria says that many of Warren's men were overcome by the heat on Wednesday morning, the terrific fighting. The thermometer at times registered 107 degrees in the shade and the English troops suffered greatly. The Boers, however, are used to the climate and remained fresh at their guns during the entire day. It is also reported that the garrison at Ladysmith is suffering greatly with the heat and the sick list is increasing."

BOER PRISONERS AT DURBAN.

They Say the Mauser Ammunition Is Nearly Exhausted.

DURBAN, Jan. 24.—Stories of General Warren's fight on Sunday brought here are to the effect that the British found 120 dead in the first Boer lines and took 160 prisoners. The prisoners, who were brought here yesterday, stated that the Boers' Mauser ammunition is nearly exhausted, and that the burghers are using cartridges which had been condemned by Commandant General Joubert."

IN TOUCH WITH FRENCH.

A Successful Scouting Party Returns From Steynsburg.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—A despatch to the "Times" from Steynsburg, Cape Colony, states that a patrol of British soldiers returned to camp on Wednesday from Steynsburg, where a connection was effected with General French's patrol. This is taken to indicate that General French's recent easterly movement was for the purpose of making the above-mentioned connection at Steynsburg, General Gatacre's headquarters."

AN OFFICIAL DENIAL.

No Portuguese Troops Sent to Delagoa Bay.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The members of the Portuguese Legation officially deny the stories printed by the "London Daily Mail" that Boers had crossed Portuguese territory into Rhodesia and that artillery had been sent to Lourenco Marques, whose governor had asked the Portuguese Government for reinforcements. The Portuguese officials state that the country in that vicinity renders such a thing impossible."

THE IMPERIAL YEOMANRY.

Inspected and Addressed by the Prince of Wales.

LONDON, Jan. 26.—The Imperial Yeomanry were inspected at their barracks this morning by the Prince of Wales, who made a speech to the men. Many prominent persons were present."

Flynn's Business College, 8th and K, 85—Census Office Examination—85.

CHINA'S EMPEROR DEAD

A Semi-Official Statement That He Committed Suicide.

Currently Removed in Shanghai That Kwang Su Has Been Murdered—In the Edict Announcing the Appointment of a Successor He Says the Empress Dowager's Consent to His Abdication Was Reluctantly Given. Responsibility for His Demise Generally Accredited to Her—The New Ruler Under the Instruction of Intensely Anti-Foreign Tutors.

SHANGHAI, Jan. 26.—A report is current here that Kwang Su, the last deposed Emperor of China, has been murdered. Semi-officially it is reported that he committed suicide. But the responsibility of his taking off is generally accredited to the Empress Dowager.

In turning over the Empire to his successor, Pu Chun, the son of Prince Tuan, the Emperor issued a long edict, declaring that the reason for his resignation was because he is childless.

The edict says: "On account of ill-health I am childless and have found it necessary to appoint a successor. Most reluctantly and after much solicitation on my part, the Empress Dowager has agreed to my request."

The edict is about as near to the facts as the east to the west. The new Emperor is under the instruction of two intensely foreign tutors.

The dowager Empress has dismissed Jung Lu, generalissimo of the forces, on account of his disapproval of the coup d'etat. The Viceroy Lu Kun Lih has been superseded by Lu Chun Lih, one of the Empress's creatures. Other high officials have also been dismissed.

There is widespread lamentation among the progressive Chinese, who regarded Kwang Su as the savior of the Chinese, if he could have been saved from the clutches of the Dowager Empress.

The news of Kwang Su's abdication has created a sensation in official and social circles in Japan, where it is believed that Russia is lending a hand in the coup d'etat.

It was stated at the Chinese Legation today that no official information of the abdication of Kwang Su had been received. Nothing was known of his reported death. In the absence of the minister, who is in New York, Mr. Chung Mun-Yew, one of the secretaries, informed a Times reporter that the legation had received no news from China.

Secretary Hay stated today that no information had been received by the State Department regarding the alleged murder or suicide of Kwang Su. The department has received no information from Mr. Conger, the United States Minister at Peking, since the cable dispatch yesterday announcing that Pu Chun had been appointed heir to the throne of China.

AT THE CABINET MEETING.

The Chinese Situation Among the Matters Under Discussion.

At the Cabinet meeting today the Chinese situation was discussed. Secretary Hay had no light to throw upon the subject, no official communication having been received beyond the brief despatch from Minister Conger, made public yesterday.

The general fact, however, that a new Emperor had been appointed was accepted as true, and the discussion turned upon the probable influence the change might have upon trade in the Orient and upon American interests in the East.

It is understood that the appointment indicates the ascendancy of that faction in the Chinese Empire that is hostile to all foreign influence. It is coming to the front at this time may serve as a temporary check upon the progress every visible to the cabinet.

The cabinet was also engaged for some time, it was intimated, in considering the war situation in South Africa.

The Postmaster General brought before the cabinet the difficulty arising from the use of the Spanish and French coins in Cuba. The people of the island place a higher value on these coins than is allowed by the United States mints, and this results in loss to the postal revenue.

No remedy has been suggested for this monetary condition, but it is expected that the various coins will be declared and that the people will be required to accept this valuation.

A RULER IN NAME ONLY.

The Reins of Government Held by the Dowager Empress.

Kwang Su, who was born twenty-nine years ago, nominally occupied the throne since he was four years old, and from all that has ever been learned of him by the outside world, was not a person of strong character, but was easily influenced by those who happened to have his ear. He was a cousin of the Emperor Tungchi, who died in 1875, the war he began to rule. That unfortunate young man was the son of the present Dowager Empress. When her husband, the Emperor Kienfeng, died, Tungchi became Emperor, but he was only five years old, so the Dowager Empress, and the wife of the deceased Emperor Tsiang, held the reins of government as regents till Tungchi became of age, when he died of smallpox. Kwang Su was not a relative of Tungchi's mother, but he was the cousin of the present Emperor, and it was her desire that he be announced as the successor to the throne. The Dowager Empress, the Eastern Emperor's, collected in this view, and so the child was proclaimed Emperor.

For four years the two Empresses reigned as joint regents and then the Eastern Empress remained sole regent until March, 1899, when the Emperor became of age and was crowned. The Dowager Empress had really been the ruler of China for twenty-seven years, since the death of her husband. She is a woman of great ability and of cultivation, according to Chinese standard.

It was in the summer of 1898 that a series of news announcements began to come from Peking which astonished the whole world. Day after day the Emperor proclaimed reforms that were wholly inconsistent with the time-honored policy and conservatism of China. The fact is that the Radical reform party, comparatively small in numbers, but full of energy, had got hold of the weak young

IN MR. HOBART'S MEMORY

Eulogies Delivered in the House of Representatives.

The Address of Mr. Gardner of New Jersey—The Late Vice President's Integrity and Energy a Lesson of the Opportunities Offered to the Young Manhood of This Country.

By special order today was set apart in the House of Representatives for eulogies on the late Vice President Hobart. The first speaker was Mr. Gardner of New Jersey who began his remarks at 2 o'clock. He was attentively listened to. He said in part:

"Mr. Speaker: The frequency with which this body is called upon to pay the last sad tribute to the memory of the eminent dead is a most forceful reminder of man's mortality. Verily 'he cometh forth like a flower and is cut down.' The generations appear like the leaves of spring and flourish for a season, only, then, smitten by the breath of the destroyer, fall even as the leaves that wither and scatter in autumn's searing blast. The earth, itself, the abode of man, shall perish; the visible heavens shall pass away; for there is nothing permanent but law and love and the kingdom of God."

"We pause in our labors today to do homage to the memory of one who was not a member of this House, but who in his high office, represented the suffrage and majesty of the great Republic. He was the only one of the great Republic who was in his own State, as the personality of the nation's life, and he was added to the list of the great Republic's heroes, when he rose to a commanding position among the nation's lights, it was seen that he was in his place, when he died all knew that a luminary had fallen from the national sky."

The career of Mr. Hobart is another of those of recurring lessons of the opportunities offered to young American manhood, and that energy, integrity and courage if seconded by real ability may conquer all the weary paths that lie between the lowly and the highest estates—and lead triumphantly to the most exalted station, for he rose with no aid, but his merit; with no friend but his deserts, and no claim to recognition but his fitness."

The speaker traced the career of Mr. Hobart from his birth at Long Branch, N. J., to the day of his nomination for Vice President, and then said:

"When Mr. Hobart was nominated for the Vice Presidency, factions in New Jersey at once lost their identity and party lines became confused. Regard for politics in many instances gave way to confidence in the man. What part of the 86,000 majority the State gave in that election was due to the personality of Mr. Hobart, and the sense in which he was held as a man, can never be accurately stated, but it may be safely said that the majority was a magnificent tribute from the citizenship of New Jersey to her citizen, in whose judgment in public as well as in private matters the people had come to place the most absolute reliance."

"His example has been a constant incentive in the community in which he lived and died; the State which he served and honored, and in the nation which at last came to know and honor him, and to the civilized world, which has now heard of him and his life, which his business energy and integrity, private Christian character and political fidelity is a model for all men."

"He advanced society—lent a dignity to common affairs, and elevated every office he filled."

"But he is gone. He died as the Christian does. He will be remembered; therefore, he has triumphed over death both here and beyond."

Mr. Brodus and other Representatives followed Mr. Gardner.

BRYAN IN PHILADELPHIA.

He Deems It a Fitting Place for a Republican Convention.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Jan. 26.—Colonel Bryan arrived in this city this morning on his way to make speeches at Wilmington, Del. In an interview at the Broad Street station he paid his respects to the citizens of Philadelphia in this manner:

"Philadelphia is just the place for the Republicans to hold their National Convention. It will be interesting to see them rally in the city where it was signed. Philadelphia ballot-box stuffers will be able to give the national leaders of the Republican party some points on purity in politics. The Philadelphiaans are possibly the instructors and not the pupils of the national leaders in this line."

IN FEAR OF VIOLENCE.

The Great Northern Railway Employees Numerous Defectives.

ST. PAUL, Jan. 26.—A strike of Great Northern Railway employees is imminent. For several months the employees have sought to have the wage schedule revised, but without success. All allied associations of the order have voted to reject the present schedule, Sunday being set as the day for final action if the demands be not conceded.

For two days the Great Northern has been gathering a force of policemen and detectives to guard the road, and they are being sent along the line. This is an indication that the road will resist the demands of the trainmen.

Letter Registration by Carriers.

Having tried the system of house-to-house letter registration in fifty-three cities, the Postoffice Department has extended it to include the twenty-one other cities of convenient size. Included in this list are Albuquerque, N. M.; Annapolis, Md.; Allegheny, Pa.; Burlington, Vt.; Butte, Mont.; Charlotte, N. C.; Cumberland, Md.; Fargo, N. D.; Jackson, Miss.; Jacksonville, Fla.; Jersey City, N. J.; Lexington, Ky.; Longmont, Colo.; Norfolk, Va.; Oskaloosa, Iowa; Richmond, Va.; South Bend, Ind.; Topeka, Kan.; Trenton, N. J.; Vicksburg, Miss.; and Wilmington, Del. February 21 has been fixed for the beginning of this service.

To Educate Indian Children.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 26.—A bill providing for the compulsory education of Indian children on the Allegheny and Cattaraugus reservations has been introduced in the assembly by Mr. Faucher.

Applications for Retirement.

Capt. Robert Ingham, commandant of the naval station at Key West, Fla., and Commander Henry Mizner, now in the hospital at Mare Island, San Francisco, have both applied for retirement under the provisions of the navy personnel act.

Washington- Toledo Sleeper.

Via B. & O.

Quick service to Michigan points daily on 12:05 a. m. train, arriving Toledo 6:30 a. m., without change, same day, making close connections to all points in Michigan.

THE MCGRAW-SCOTT CASE.

Counsel to Be Heard by the Senate Committee Tomorrow.

Counsel in the case of John T. McGraw, of West Virginia, and certain members of the legislature of that State against Senator Nathan B. Scott of West Virginia will be heard by the Committee on Privileges and Elections in the House tomorrow. It is probable that the Senate tomorrow, if beyond argument by exposing counsel, as the question involved is one of law rather than of fact.

Former Senator Fairbairn will present the case of the defense and that of the respondents will be presented by Senator-elect Blackburn of Kentucky and Welles, Bennett & Welles.

THE WHITE HOUSE CALLERS.

An Application for the Promotion of Major Aumon.

Senator Beveridge of Indiana was with the President this morning for a short time before the Cabinet meeting. He stated that his call developed nothing of a public nature, his mission being to confer with Mr. McKinley briefly about an appointment from his State.

Senator Beveridge was asked about the political outlook in Indiana and said he thought everything was working in the direction of a hot campaign next fall. Some of the preliminary work has already been done, according to his statement, in the way of committee organization and in placing the party leaders in line for the supreme effort later in the year.

He would not admit that the State is doubtful, but at the same time acquiesced in the view that the Republican ticket could not win in Indiana this year without a vigorous and aggressive campaign.

The voters of the State are somewhat evenly divided, the Senator said, and the spirit of independence from party control is widespread in the House and Senate.

As a consequence, it was intimated that it is not easy to foretell results.

Representatives Folk and Ryan of Pennsylvania called upon the President with a delegation of citizens from Gettysburg who urged upon the Executive the promotion of Major William Aumon, brevetted for gallantry at the battle of San Juan. Major Aumon's record was carefully reviewed to the President, including his services in the Spanish war, and he was asked to add another grade to the gallant officer's rank.

The same delegation also called at the War Department.

The other callers before the Cabinet meeting were Senator Carter of Montana, Representatives Allen, of Mississippi, Sherman of New York, Lacey of Iowa, and former Representative Fisher.

A GREAT STRIKE THREATENED.

Cramps' Former Employees May Attempt to Tie Up Yards.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 26.—A general strike in all the shipyards on the Atlantic seaboard working more than nine hours a day is threatened. The matter will be decided at a meeting of the executive committee of Cramps' strikers Sunday morning at 327 Girard Avenue. The committee decide affirmatively, it is claimed, the workers in the yards of the Newport News Shipbuilding Company, Harlan & Hollingsworth, Wilmington, and Neale & Levy will be called out immediately.

The strikers are confident, they say, that the order will be obeyed very generally by the men. Further action affecting other yards is not contemplated at present. The shipbuilders of New York and Baltimore are said to require the strikers to make good their word, and no strike will be made upon them.

FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH.

A Wife Refuses to Tell of Her Husband's Cruelty.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 26.—John B. Cummings, a cabinet-maker, has been arrested, charged with fatally beating his wife with a chair. Last night she was taken to the hospital, but lived only a few hours. Her husband's alleged brutality produced peritonitis.

Mrs. Cummings leaves four small children. Cummings was locked up in default of \$25,000 bond. His wife was urged to make an ante-mortem statement, but, to shield her husband, she refused.

THE HOUSE ROUTINE.

A Conference on the Urgent Deficiency Bill Amendments.

In the House today Mr. Hopkins presented the conference report on the Census bill. It was adopted.

The Indian Appropriation bill was presented by Mr. Sherman and ordered printed and placed on the calendar.

At the request of Mr. Cannon the House refused to concur in the Senate amendments to the urgency deficiency appropriation, and adopted a motion that a conference be had with the Senate respecting the bill.

Mr. Miller, of Kansas, endeavored to obtain consent for the passage of a bill, granting the military reservation at Fort Hayes to the State of Kansas for the location of branches of the State Agricultural College and Normal School, and for other purposes, but Mr. Underwood of Alabama objected.

A bill was passed granting to Hot Springs, Ark., a tract of land 310 by 260 feet in size, as a site for public buildings.

A reminder of the Dewey victory in Manila was contained in the bill which Mr. Mahon of Pennsylvania asked the House to pass, to pay the Eastern Extension, Cebu, and China Cable Company the cost of repairing the cable between Manila and Hongkong, cut by the Admiral.

There was no legal ground for a claim for compensation by the Secretary of State and the President recommended its payment as an act of grace and comity. To secure consideration it was necessary for the House to grant Committee of the Whole. After some discussion the committee rose without disposing of the bill.

THE DISTRICT IN CONGRESS.

A Bill to Compel Parents to Support Their Children.

Representative Babcock has introduced a bill to provide for the compulsory support of children by parents in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Mudd has introduced a bill to incorporate the East Washington and Burning Railway Company of the District of Columbia.

PROF. PHELPS' CONDITION.

Little Hope of His Recovery Now Held Out.

NEW HAVEN, Jan. 26.—The condition of Edward J. Phelps, the former Minister to England, is almost hopeless today. He is very low, and Dr. Gilbert, his physician, says that the end is approaching rapidly. Little hope of recovery is held out. Dr. Gilbert was with Prof. Phelps all night.

A summons has been sent out to the members of his family and close friends stating that the chances of recovery are decidedly small.

English Troops Arrive at Cape Town.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 26.—The transport Chermside, with forty-five officers and 1,216 men, arrived here yesterday.

Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co. Delightful trips daily at 6:30 a. m. to Old Point Comfort, Newport News, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach. For schedule, see page 7.

THE NICARAGUA CANAL

A Change Made in the Bill by the House Committee.

An Amendment Intended to Remove the Objection of Those Opposed to an Appropriation of \$14,000,000 at One Time—The Proposition for a Trans-Pacific Cable Line Discussed.

An important change in the Nicaragua Canal bill was made this morning by the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, which is intended to remove the objections of those opposed to appropriating \$14,000,000 for the canal at one time. The committee recalled the bill and amended it by striking out section six, which appropriated the \$14,000,000 and inserting the following:

"That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, toward the project herein contemplated, and the Secretary of War is further hereby authorized to enter into a contract, or contracts, for materials and work that may be deemed necessary for the proper excavation, construction, defense, and completion of said canal, and he is authorized to appropriate any sum from time to time he hereafter made not to exceed in the aggregate \$14,000,000."

With this alteration the bill was ordered reported.

General Wager Swaine, of New York, appeared before the committee in behalf of the Commercial Cable Company and the Pacific Cable Company, of New Jersey, in opposition to the bill providing for a cable between Manila and Hongkong. The company claims to have a monopoly of cable service in the Philippine Islands. It claims that under a grant of 1878 it had a monopoly with a subsidy for forty years, for a cable between Manila and Hongkong. The company claims to have a monopoly of cable service in the Philippine Islands. It claims that under a grant of 1878 it had a monopoly with a subsidy for forty years, for a cable between Manila and Hongkong. The company claims to have a monopoly of cable service in the Philippine Islands. It claims that under a grant of 1878 it had a monopoly with a subsidy for forty years, for a cable between Manila and Hongkong.

It would take about \$500,000 to purchase the exclusive rights to land cables in the Philippines.

Captain Squier, of the Signal Service, gave a brief history of the cable project, in which the claims of the cable companies to monopolies in Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines were controverted. General Greely had obtained, he said, copies of original grants from the Spanish authorities, which had been carefully examined, and the brief had been presented to Secretary Taft. Captain Squier thought he would be able to present the brief at the next hearing on Tuesday. Admiral Bradford was ready to appear before the committee, but the time being limited he was requested to come again on Tuesday.

A NEW YORK LIQUOR BILL.

It Requires Inferior Products to Be Plainly Marked.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 26.—Assemblyman Stevens has introduced a bill that provides where and after, not absolutely pure, is offered for sale by any wholesaler or retailer, a sign not less than six inches in length, with these words, "Inferior liquor," shall be displayed. "Inferior liquor" and "here." Brewers are also to label "inferior" packages in which ale and port are put up as "inferior." A penalty of one or six months imprisonment is provided by the bill.

A PRIVATE STREET CAR.

One Bought in Baltimore for Use in This City.

BALTIMORE, N. J., Jan. 26.—The United Railways and Electric Company has sold the handsome private car "Maryland" to the syndicate which owns the principal lines in Washington, and the name of the car has been changed to "Columbia."

This car was ordered by the directors of the City Passenger Railway, and is one of the most expensive private cars ever constructed for street railway service. The interior is fully finished in mahogany and is brilliantly lighted by rows of small electric lights set in the woodwork. It has a separate smoking compartment and a dining-room. The car is a washstand, cabinets for provisions, and a large chest. A new set of